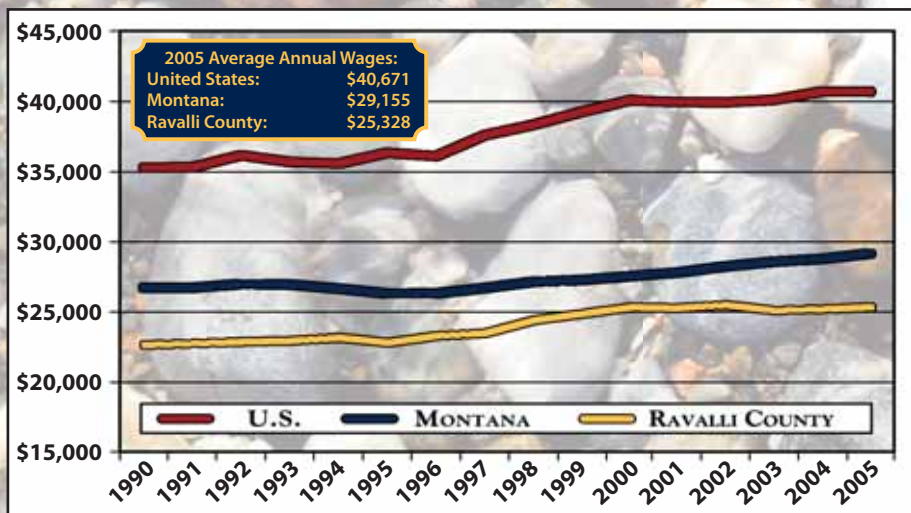


## Annual Average Labor Force - Ravalli County

Year	Civilian Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed	Unemployment Rate
2005	18,650	17,789	861	4.6
2004	18,274	17,348	926	5.1
2003	17,861	16,904	957	5.4
2002	17,550	16,652	898	5.1
2001	17,293	16,446	847	4.9
2000	17,094	16,198	896	5.2

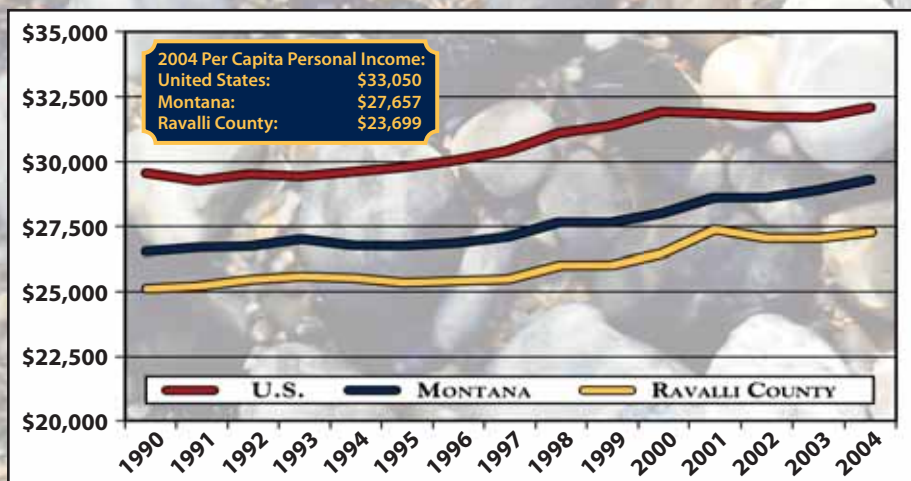
Source: Montana Department of Labor & Industry, Local Area Unemployment Statistics Program (LAUS)

## Average Annual Wages, 1990 to 2005 (In 2005 Dollars)



Source: Montana Department of Labor & Industry, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages Program (QCEW)

## Per Capita Personal Income, 1990 to 2004 (In 2005 Dollars)



Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce, Regional Economic Information System

Photo courtesy of Donnie Sexton, Travel Montana

# Demographic & Economic Information for Ravalli County

Ravalli County

**RESEARCH & ANALYSIS BUREAU**

Research & Analysis Bureau - Montana Department of Labor & Industry  
 P.O. Box 1728 - Helena, MT 59624-1728 - Ph: (406) 444-2430  
 or Toll-free: (800) 541-3904 - Fax: (406) 444-2638  
 E-mail: [webmasterrad@mt.gov](mailto:webmasterrad@mt.gov) - Website: [www.ourfactsyourfuture.org](http://www.ourfactsyourfuture.org)

**CEIC**

Census and Economic Information Center - Montana Department of Commerce  
 P.O. Box 200505 - Helena, MT 59620-0505 - Ph: (406) 841-2740 - Fax: (406) 841-2731  
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## RAVALLI COUNTY

Also known as the “Bitterroot Valley,” Ravalli County lies between the Sapphire Mountains on the East and the Bitterroot Mountains on the West. Ravalli is Montana’s 7th most populous county with an estimated 39,940 residents in 2005. Hamilton, the county seat, is the state’s 19th largest city with a population of 4,443 in 2005.<sup>1</sup> Other towns in Ravalli County include Stevensville, Darby, and Pinesdale. In the 1990’s, Ravalli County was the fastest growing county in Montana, with a population increase of 43% (25,010 to 35,811 residents) from 1990 to 1999.<sup>2</sup>

Retail Trade is the biggest subsector of Ravalli County’s economy, with employment levels reaching 1,477 in 2005. Other significant subsectors include Health Care & Social Assistance, Educational Services, Manufacturing, and Accommodation & Food Services. However, it is the smaller subsectors that have seen the most growth in recent years, with Wholesale Trade; Arts, Entertainment & Recreation; Mining; and Construction all showing double-digit growth from 2004 to 2005.<sup>3</sup>

Ravalli County contains 1,850 square miles of public forest lands, which has played a significant role in its economic development. Historically, these lands have primarily contributed to the economy through lumber and wood products manufacturing. Today, these public forests are considered an important draw for tourism and migration to the area. Lumber and wood products manufacturing still play an important role, however, and Ravalli County was one of only a few counties to experience growth in this economic subsector in recent years.<sup>2</sup>

Another draw to the area is its proximity to Missoula. Estimates suggest that roughly 15 to 20 percent of employed Ravalli County residents work in Missoula County.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program

<sup>2</sup>“The Bitterroot Valley of Western Montana Area Economic Profile” by Dr. Larry Swanson of the University of Montana

<sup>3</sup>Montana Department of Labor & Industry, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages Program (QCEW)

## Resources for Ravalli County

### Job Service Workforce Center

Bitterroot Job Service Workforce Center  
333 W. Main St., Hamilton, MT 59840  
Ph: 406-363-1822,  
Website: [jsd.dli.mt.gov/local/hamilton](http://jsd.dli.mt.gov/local/hamilton)

### Newspapers

**Ravalli Republic**  
232 W. Main St., Hamilton, MT 59840  
Ph: 406-363-3300  
E-mail: [publisher@ravallirepublic.com](mailto:publisher@ravallirepublic.com)  
Website: [www.ravallineews.com](http://www.ravallineews.com)

**The Bitterroot Star**  
215 Main, Stevensville, MT 59870  
Ph: 406-777-3928, E-mail: [brstar@montana.com](mailto:brstar@montana.com)  
Website: [www.bitterrootstar.com](http://www.bitterrootstar.com)

### Chamber of Commerce:

Bitterroot Valley Chamber of Commerce  
105 E. Main, Hamilton, MT 59840  
Ph: 406-363-2400  
E-mail: [localinfo@bvchamber.com](mailto:localinfo@bvchamber.com)  
Website: [bitterrootvalleychamber.com](http://bitterrootvalleychamber.com)

### Economic Development

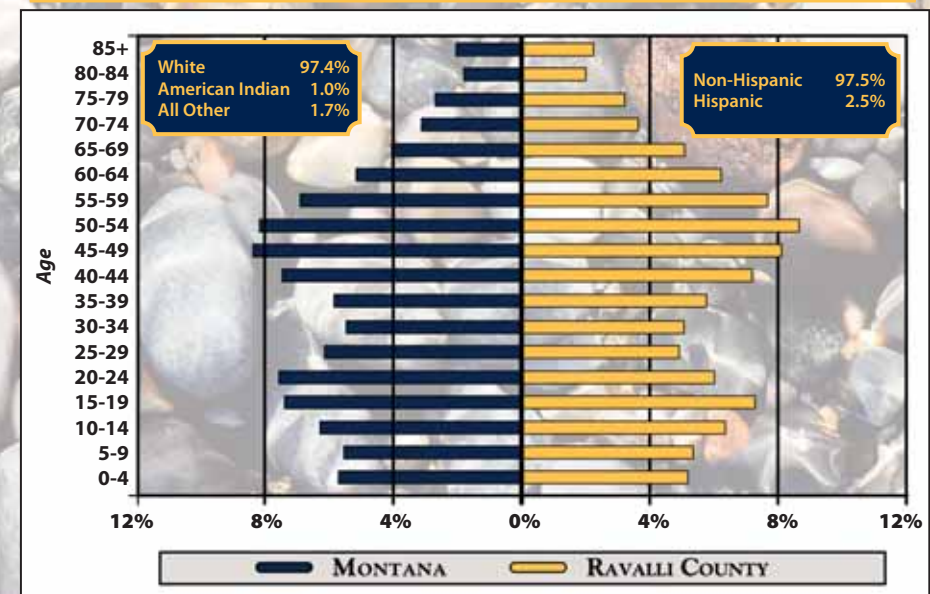
**Ravalli County Economic Development Authority**  
105 E. Main, Hamilton, MT 59840  
Ph: 406-375-9416  
E-mail: [julie@rceda.org](mailto:julie@rceda.org)  
Website: [rceda.org](http://rceda.org)

## Population for Ravalli County & Related Areas

Geography	Total Population					
	Census	Estimates				
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Montana	902,195	906,098	910,395	917,885	926,920	935,670
Ravalli County	36,070	36,907	37,737	38,739	39,470	39,940
Darby	710	726	751	786	816	835
Hamilton	3,705	3,843	3,960	4,182	4,353	4,443
Pinesdale	742	771	801	819	831	832
Stevensville	1,553	1,640	1,730	1,793	1,833	1,855
Balance of Ravalli County	29,360	29,927	30,495	31,159	31,637	31,975

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program

## Distribution of Population by Age Montana and Ravalli County, 2005



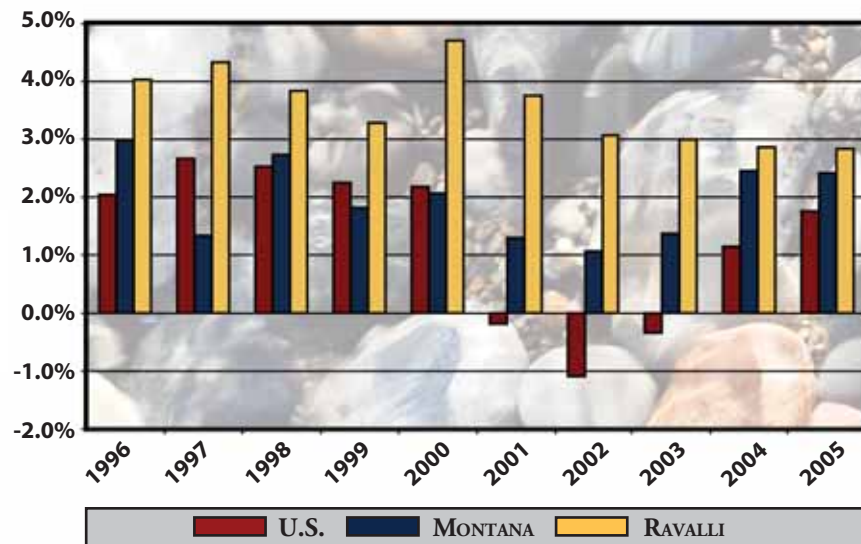
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005 Population Estimates

## Highest Level of Educational Attainment (Population 25 years and older)

Educational Attainment	Ravalli County	Montana	U.S.
Less than High School Diploma	12.6%	12.8%	19.6%
High School Diploma (or equivalent)	31.5%	31.3%	28.6%
Some College	28.2%	25.6%	21.0%
Associate Degree	5.2%	5.9%	6.3%
Bachelor's Degree	15.9%	17.2%	15.5%
Master's Degree	3.6%	4.6%	5.9%
Professional Degree	1.4%	1.7%	2.0%
Doctoral Degree	1.7%	0.9%	1.0%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000

## Percent Change in Employment: 1996 to 2005 U.S., Montana, and Ravalli County



Source: Montana Department of Labor & Industry, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages Program (QCEW)

## Top 20 Private Employers in Ravalli County (Based on 1st Quarter 2006 Data - Listed in Alphabetical Order)

Business Name	Size Class	Business Name	Size Class
A 2 Z Personnel-Nolan Temps	5	Marcus Daly Memorial Hospital	7
Albertsons	6	Neville Log Homes	5
Apex Human Resources	6	North Valley Health Care Center	5
Corixa Corporation	6	Pioneer Log Homes	5
Custom Log Homes	5	Ravalli Services Corp.	5
Discovery Care Centre	5	Rocky Mountain Log Homes	5
Farmers State Bank	6	Selway Corporation	6
Fox Lumber Sales	6	Stravina Operating Co.	5
Kmart	5	Super 1 Foods	6
Lost Trail Ski Area	5	Valley View Estates Health Care Center	5

Employment Size Class Coding: Class 9 = 1000+ employees, Class 8 = 500 to 999 employees, Class 7 = 250 to 499 employees, Class 6 = 100 to 249 employees, Class 5 = 50 to 99 employees, Class 4 = 20 to 49 employees, Class 3 = 10 to 19 employees

Source: Montana Department of Labor & Industry, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages Program (QCEW)  
This list includes ONLY private industry employers subject to unemployment insurance. Railroads and government agencies are excluded.

## Agricultural Statistics - Ravalli County

### Farms

<b>Farms: (number)</b>	1,441
Land in farms (acres)	245,133
Average size of farms (acres)	170
<b>Farms by size: (number)</b>	
Less than 1,000 acres	1,388
1,000 acres or more	53
<b>Farms by value of products sold and government payments received: (number)</b>	
Less than \$100,000	1,381
\$100,000 or more	60
<b>Farms by type of organization: (number)</b>	
Family, Individual, Partnership	1,358
Corporation, Cooperative, Trust	83

### Livestock Inventory and Crops Harvested

<b>Livestock and Poultry Inventory (number)</b>	
Cattle and calves	33,846
Hogs and pigs	854
Sheep and lambs	4,473
Horses and ponies	4,927
Bison	44
Chickens (layers and broilers)	2,263
<b>Crops Harvested (acres)</b>	
Corn for grain	0
Corn for silage or greenchop	292
Wheat for grain, All	1,789
Winter wheat for grain	758
Durum wheat for grain	0
Spring wheat for grain	1,031
Barley for grain	1,262
Oats for grain	742
Sunflower seed, All	0
Soybeans for beans	0
Hay, haylage, grass silage	44,256

### Operator Demographics

<b>Primary occupation: (number)</b>	
Farming	745
Other	696
<b>Place of residence: (number)</b>	
On farm operated	1,339
Not on farm operated	102
<b>Years on present farm: (number)</b>	
Less than 10 years	524
10 years or more	917
<b>Age group: (number)</b>	
Under 55 years	673
55 years and over	768
<b>Average age of operators: (number)</b>	56.6

Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Agricultural Statistics Service, 2002  
(D) - Not Disclosable



# Employment by Industry - Annual Averages 2005 - Ravalli County

Industry	Number of Establishments	Average Annual Employment	Annual Wages Per Job
TOTAL ALL INDUSTRIES	1,469	10,928	\$25,332
TOTAL PRIVATE	1,402	8,905	\$23,652
AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY, FISHING & HUNTING	55	233	\$23,655
Crop production	10	101	\$25,302
Animal production	13	56	\$21,549
Forestry and logging	22	67	\$23,118
Agriculture & forestry support	11	10	\$22,340
MINING	4	*	*
Mining, except oil and gas	4	*	*
UTILITIES	5	37	\$56,532
CONSTRUCTION	294	962	\$27,647
Construction of buildings	98	317	\$27,234
Heavy and civil engineering construction	15	42	\$37,201
Specialty trade contractors	181	604	\$27,205
MANUFACTURING	90	1,026	\$33,678
Food manufacturing	8	60	\$14,946
Beverage and tobacco product mfg	1	*	*
Textile mills	1	*	*
Textile product mills	2	*	*
Leather and allied product manufacturing	3	*	*
Wood product manufacturing	23	538	\$40,399
Printing and related support activities	4	9	\$18,555
Chemical manufacturing	1	*	*
Plastics & rubber products manufacturing	2	*	*
Nonmetallic mineral product mfg	3	*	*
Primary metal manufacturing	1	*	*
Fabricated metal product manufacturing	16	186	\$33,434
Machinery manufacturing	3	9	\$18,589
Computer and electronic product mfg	2	*	*
Electrical equipment and appliance mfg	1	*	*
Transportation equipment manufacturing	3	24	\$21,572
Furniture and related product mfg	10	25	\$18,647
Miscellaneous manufacturing	7	50	\$26,910
WHOLESALE TRADE	66	397	\$30,216
Merchant wholesalers, durable goods	28	196	\$34,747
Merchant wholesalers, nondurable goods	15	140	\$23,906
Electronic markets & agents and brokers	23	61	\$30,125
RETAIL TRADE	168	1,477	\$18,439
Motor vehicle and parts dealers	20	148	\$25,445
Furniture and home furnishings stores	15	82	\$18,353
Electronics and appliance stores	7	*	*
Building material & garden supply stores	28	183	\$21,222
Food and beverage stores	18	531	\$18,054
Health and personal care stores	11	101	\$26,616
Gasoline stations	17	157	\$12,286
Clothing and clothing accessories stores	8	31	\$14,240
Sporting good, hobby, book, music stores	14	63	\$10,035
General merchandise stores	3	*	*
Miscellaneous store retailers	21	73	\$12,622

Industry	Number of Establishments	Average Annual Employment	Annual Wages Per Job
Nonstore retailers	7	13	\$23,436
TRANSPORTATION AND WAREHOUSING	45	241	\$23,942
Air transportation	3	*	*
Truck transportation	25	149	\$26,800
Transit and ground passenger transport	3	54	\$7,724
Support activities for transportation	13	32	\$34,372
Couriers and messengers	1	*	*
INFORMATION	23	97	\$22,186
Publishing industries, except Internet	7	30	\$12,030
Motion picture, sound recording industry	4	20	\$9,358
Broadcasting, except Internet	2	*	*
Telecommunications	6	36	\$36,560
ISPs, search portals, & data processing	2	*	*
Other information services	2	*	*
FINANCE AND INSURANCE	49	383	\$34,961
Credit intermediation & related activity	19	273	\$32,991
Securities, comm. contracts, investments	9	23	\$73,586
Insurance carriers & related activities	22	88	\$31,113
REAL ESTATE AND RENTAL AND LEASING	53	112	\$17,212
Real estate	46	95	\$18,824
Rental and leasing services	7	17	\$8,106
PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICAL SERVICES	121	481	\$38,048
MANAGEMENT OF COMPANIES AND ENTERPRISES	4	14	\$32,651
ADMINISTRATIVE AND WASTE SERVICES	55	424	\$20,794
Administrative and support services	52	386	\$19,592
Waste management and remediation service	3	38	\$32,999
EDUCATIONAL SERVICES	10	88	\$17,968
HEALTH CARE AND SOCIAL ASSISTANCE	88	1,133	\$24,171
Ambulatory health care services	54	316	\$22,972
Hospitals	1	*	*
Nursing and residential care facilities	9	250	\$18,386
Social assistance	25	*	*
ARTS, ENTERTAINMENT, AND RECREATION	43	334	\$15,112
Performing arts and spectator sports	5	*	*
Museums, historical sites, zoos, & parks	1	*	*
Amusements, gambling, and recreation	36	319	\$14,963
ACCOMMODATION AND FOOD SERVICES	107	1,016	\$10,162
Accommodation	24	174	\$15,759
Food services and drinking places	83	842	\$9,006
OTHER SERVICES	122	439	\$16,496
Repair and maintenance	45	141	\$22,369
Personal and laundry services	21	71	\$13,382
Membership associations & organizations	40	175	\$11,720
Private households	16	52	\$20,883
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	67	2,023	\$32,729
Local Government	33	1,358	\$24,976
State Government	15	165	\$33,142
Federal Government	19	501	\$53,612

Source: Montana Department of Labor & Industry, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages Program (QCEW)

\* Data Not Disclosable

The QCEW program compiles data reported by all employers covered under Montana unemployment insurance. (Totals may not add due to nondisclosure of confidential industry data or to rounding.)